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OCT 09 2007

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for attaching a guide rail to a substrate with a floating mount comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a guide rail having a rail base;
- b) providing at least one fixing device having at least one flexible element and a stop including forming the flexible element with a base support retaining at least one flexible strip unit and forming the base support with a crescent shaped top strip unit having an apex line;
- c) attaching the rail base to a substrate with the at least one fixing device by installing the base support between the guide rail and the substrate and positioning the rail base on the apex line whereby when the guide rail section is temporarily subjected to a deforming force moving the guide rail relative to the substrate in a deforming direction, the at least one flexible element is deformed; and
- d) when the deforming force exceeds a predetermined limit, limiting further movement of the guide rail in the deforming direction with the stop.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the deforming movement is along a height axis perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the guide rail and to the rail base.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the deforming movement is along a lateral axis perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the guide rail and parallel to the rail base.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the deforming movement is along at least one of a height axis perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the guide rail and to the rail base and a lateral axis perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the guide rail and parallel to the rail base.

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Claims 5-7 (Cancelled)

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8. (Original) The method according to claim 1 including a step of forming the flexible element with a side support retaining at least one flexible sleeve element.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8 wherein said step c) includes installing the flexible sleeve element in a pretensioned condition.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8 wherein said step c) is performed by installing the side support and another side support ~~one of the side supports~~ on each of opposite sides of the rail base.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 1 including a step of forming the flexible element with a backside support retaining at least one flexible disc element and at least one claw.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11 wherein said step c) includes installing the flexible disc element in a pretensioned condition.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 11 wherein said step c) is performed by installing one of the backside supports and one of the claws on each of opposite sides of the rail base.

14. (Currently Amended) A device for attaching a guide rail to a substrate comprising:
support means adapted to attach the guide rail to a substrate;
a moveable part attached to said support means;
a flexible element floatingly supporting said moveable part; and
a stop adjacent said moveable part whereby when the guide rail is attached to the substrate by said support means and a deforming force is applied to the guide rail moving the guide rail and said moveable part in a deforming direction, said flexible element deforms until the deforming force exceeds a predetermined limit whereupon said stop engages said moveable part and prevents further movement of the guide rail in the deforming direction, wherein said moveable part includes a

top strip unit adapted to engage the guide rail and said flexible element includes at least one flexible strip unit retained between said top strip unit and said stop, wherein the deforming direction includes along a height axis of the guide rail, and wherein said top strip unit is crescent shaped in profile with an apex line upon which a rail base of the guide rail is positioned.

Claims 15-16 (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 14 wherein said moveable part is includes an outer sleeve adapted to engage the guide rail, said stop is includes a face of an inner sleeve positioned inside said outer sleeve, and said flexible element includes at least one flexible sleeve element positioned between said outer sleeve and said inner sleeve, and wherein the deforming direction is includes along a lateral axis of the guide rail.

18. (Original) The device according to claim 17 wherein said flexible sleeve element is pretensioned.

19. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 14 wherein said moveable part is includes a bottom disc, said stop is includes a top disc and said flexible element is a flexible disc positioned between said bottom disc and said top disc, and wherein the deforming direction is along a the height axis of the guide rail.

20. (Original) The device according to claim 19 wherein said flexible disc is pretensioned.

21. (Original) The device according to claim 14 wherein said flexible element compensates for any radial offset and angular offset between the guide rail and said support means.

22. (Original) The device according to claim 14 wherein said flexible element is formed of one of a flexible plastic material, a flexible rubber material and a flexible metal material.

23. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 14 wherein said support means includes at least one pin extending through apertures formed in a rail base ~~support of the guide rail~~ and the substrate and at least one fastener co-operating with said pin to attach the guide rail to the substrate.

Claim 24 (Cancelled)

25. (New) A device for attaching a guide rail to a substrate comprising:

support means adapted to attach the guide rail to a substrate;

a moveable part attached to said support means and including an outer sleeve adapted to engage the guide rail;

a stop adjacent said moveable part and including a face of an inner sleeve positioned inside said outer sleeve; and

a flexible element floatingly supporting said moveable part, said flexible element including at least one flexible sleeve element positioned between said outer sleeve and said inner sleeve whereby when the guide rail is attached to the substrate by said support means and a deforming force is applied to the guide rail moving the guide rail and said moveable part in a deforming direction, said flexible element deforms until the deforming force exceeds a predetermined limit whereupon said stop engages said moveable part and prevents further movement of the guide rail in the deforming direction, the deforming direction being along a lateral axis of the guide rail.

26. (New) The device according to claim 25 wherein said flexible sleeve element is pretensioned.

27. (New) The device according to claim 14 wherein said moveable part includes a top strip unit adapted to engage the guide rail and said flexible element includes at least one flexible strip unit retained between said top strip unit and said stop, and wherein the deforming direction includes along a height axis of the guide rail.

28. (New) The device according to claim 25 wherein said moveable part includes a bottom disc, said stop includes a top disc and said flexible element is a flexible disc positioned between said bottom disc and said top disc, and wherein the deforming direction includes along a height axis of the guide rail.

29. (New) The device according to claim 28 wherein said flexible disc is pretensioned.

30. (New) The device according to claim 25 wherein said flexible element compensates for any radial offset and angular offset between the guide rail and said support means.

31. (New) The device according to claim 25 wherein said flexible element is formed of one of a flexible plastic material, a flexible rubber material and a flexible metal material.

32. (New) The device according to claim 25 wherein said support means includes at least one pin extending through apertures formed in a base support and the substrate and at least one fastener co-operating with said pin to attach the guide rail to the substrate.